IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Hermann Maier, et al.

Examiner: Frank D. Lopez

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of October 11, 2007, applicants respectfully request that the following amendments be entered into this application.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC FILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Patent & Trademark Office via Electronic Filing through the United States Patent and Trademark Office e-business website, on January 2, 2008.

Dated: January 2, 2008